

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 412
By Armstrong

A RESOLUTION to designate February 4-10, 1996, as Minority
Economic Development Week.

WHEREAS, MED Week is an acronym for Minority Enterprise Development Week; and

WHEREAS, in 1983, President Reagan proclaimed MED week as a national event to be
observed annually; and

WHEREAS, the objectives of MED week are:

- To honor outstanding students with future entrepreneurial goals;
- To provide minority business with a high profile within the community;
- To raise the awareness level of the business/industry community of the area's minority-owned businesses and thereby promote increased business for the minority-owned companies;
- To foster stronger ties among minority business owners and majority business owners;
- To encourage minorities to enter into business and to enhance their success in business; and
- To recognize outstanding minority business and majority business through awards and publicity; and

WHEREAS, locally, this year's celebration "MED week 96; Turning Diversity Into Opportunity" covers the week of February 4-10, 1996, in Knox, Anderson and Blount Counties;
and

WHEREAS, this year's celebration is sponsored by the East Tennessee Minority Purchasing Counsel, in cooperation with the Knoxville Area Urban League, the East Tennessee Community Relations Council, and involves many minority business owners' time, talent, and energy as well as the support of major corporations and community agencies; and

WHEREAS, awards will be presented to large and small businesses and government agencies for outstanding contributions in the area of minority business development and growth; and

WHEREAS, this year's awards will include: WEB DuBois Minority Business of the Year, Woman-Owned Business of the Year, New Business of the Year for Exceptional Growth, New Business of the Year for Community Service, Corporate Sponsor of the Year, Government Partner of the Year, Buzz Elkins Business Development and Avon Rollins Heritage Award; and

WHEREAS, the conference offers a variety of workshops from "Electronic Commerce" to "Opportunities for Doing Business in South Africa"; and

WHEREAS, Frank C. Larvie, MK-Ferguson of Oak Ridge, is this year's East Tennessee Minority Purchasing Council's Board Chairman; and Ruby A. Miller, Ram Votec/State Farm Insurance; and Peter D. Dayton, United States Department of Energy; serve expertly as Conference Co-Chairs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby designate the week of February 4 through February 10, 1996, as "East Tennessee Minority Purchasing Council (ETMPC) Fourth Annual Minority Economic Development (MED) Week".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That three appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copies.